

# MINUTES OF THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT ALFORD SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB ON 25 MAY 2010, COMMENCING AT 7:30pm.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PRESENT: Committee members: G Aspinall (President), S Clarke (Chairman), J Rushton, D Wolstencroft, D Goulden, EA Pentland, G Rushton, D Buckley.

Local Leagues: Blackpool, Bolton, Bury, East Lancs, Lancaster & Morecambe, Liverpool, Manchester, Manchester Banks & Ins, Oldham, Preston, Southport, Warrington & Wigan.

APOLOGIES: M Ireland, T Purcell

ABSENT: Local Leagues – Lytham St Annes.

MINUTES: The minutes of the previous AGM had been circulated in advanced of the meeting and they had also been available on the website. They were taken as read and an accurate account of the 2009 AGM.

Proposed by A Knowlson, seconded by C Maule that they be signed as a true record.

Carried unanimously.

MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising.

## PRESENTATIONS:

Trophies for Juniors 2A Division winners:

Alex Buchanan, Craig Scarisbrick, Adam Choi, Michael Lunn, Rebecca McGrath, Rebekah Griffiths, Emily Ross & Ellie Rees

of which the majority were collected by various representatives.

County badges were presented to the following players:

Jamie Lunn, Alex Simmill, Amy Hutchings, Abigail Griffith, Emily Ross, Miles Fong, Jasmine Yang.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: The report had been circulated on the night. The Secretary thanked local leagues Liverpool and Blackpool for organising and running both junior and senior tournaments during the season, as well as Tony Meredith and Brian Jackson for the junior and veteran tournaments that they had run during the season as well. Thanks was also given to the Preston League for staging the England Mens & Ladies international matches in March.

The Committee also brought to the attention of the AGM that the Blackburn Table Tennis League had NOT affiliated to either the ETTA or Lancashire for the 2009/10 season and, as of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010, they were an unaffiliated league. Under ETTA rules 46.1 & 46.1.1, "An Affiliated Person or Organisation must NOT play Competitive Table Tennis or in exhibition with or against any player or organisation not affiliated to the ETTA, unless permission is given by the National Council or the General Secretary of the appropriate County Association". Following some discussion and comments from the meeting, there was some confusion of what this actually meant. The General Secretary stated that his understanding was that affiliated players and affiliated clubs would not be allowed to play in the Blackburn TT League, unless Blackburn re-affiliated. It was also his view that if

Blackburn players, affiliated individually to the ETTA, they would NOT be allowed to play in other Local Leagues, if they continued to play in an unaffiliated Blackburn TT League. The General Secretary stated that he would seek to get further clarification from the ETTA and would keep the Lancashire Local League secretaries aware of any developments.

There were no further questions about the report.

Proposed by D Graham, seconded by G Rushton, that the report be accepted.

Carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Income & Expenditure account and balance sheet had been circulated on the night.

The Treasurer gave a brief explanation of the I&E account and reported that there was a surplus of £375 on the year, which had resulted in the Committee recommending no increases in affiliation fees for next season.

The Chairman commented that the Committee had decided to keep the same procedure for calculating County affiliation fees as in previous years and would not be moving to individual player affiliation fees as the ETTA.

Affiliation fees for 2010/11 season will be £2.60 per player based on number of players in a team plus one, i.e. £10.40 for a 3-person team & £13.00 for a 4-person team.

The accounts had been audited by Harry Ross.

Proposed by B Johnson, seconded by D Buckley that the report be accepted.

Carried unanimously.

COUNTY MATCH SECRETARY'S REPORT: This was circulated on the night and read out by Mrs J Rushton.

County Trials

Trials were held on 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> September for U11, U13, U15 and U18s at Preston which unfortunately coincided with a regional training day.

These categories were used in order to nominate the top four players to play in the Regional Trials. However, this season it was decided that the Regional Trials would not be held, although we were unaware of this at the time of the County trials.

It has therefore been decided that, if there are no Regional Trials next season, we run categories U15 and U18s only for selection purposes for the Cadet & Junior County Championships teams.

Thanks to Stan Clarke for organising the Trials.

County Championships

There were 7 teams entered into the County Championships for season 2009/2010.

One Cadet, Two Junior, One Senior, Two Veterans and One Over 60's team.

The Cadets played in Division 1A over two Saturdays at Halifax and Draycott & Long Eaton. Results were 2 wins over Cambridgeshire (9-1) and Sussex (8-2), a draw with both Cleveland and Nottinghamshire and losing to Lincolnshire (4-6) and Warwickshire (or Yorkshire) (1-9). I have not received any score sheets for these matches. The team finishing in 4<sup>th</sup> position in the Division.

The Junior teams both played in Division 2A over 2 Saturdays at Halifax & Long Eaton. Once again, I have received no score sheets.

Lancashire 1<sup>st</sup> team had wins over Cheshire 2 (7-3), Lancashire 2 (10-0) and Yorkshire 2 (6-4) in the first round of matches, followed by wins over Derbyshire 2 (9-1), Leicestershire (7-3), Lincolnshire (9-1), Norfolk (6-4) and Suffolk (8-2) in the second round of matches, finishing top of the Division.

Lancashire 2<sup>nd</sup> team lost to Cheshire 2 (2-8), Lancashire 1 (0-10) and Yorkshire 2 (0-10) in their first round matches, followed by 3 wins over Derbyshire 2 (7-3), Lincolnshire (6-4) and Suffolk (5-4) and 2 losses to Leicestershire (2-8) and Norfolk (4-6) in the second round of matches, finishing 6<sup>th</sup> in the Division and should avoid relegation.

The Senior team played all their matches over one weekend, as in the previous season. The Matches were played at Cramlington, Northumberland. Unfortunately Lancashire had registered and played a player who had already played for Clwyd unbeknown to us and his points were expunged. Despite the expunged points, the results of the weekend were two wins over Durham (7-3) and Lincolnshire (6-4), a draw with Northumberland and four losses to Cambridgeshire (4-6), Leicestershire (3-7), South Yorkshire (4-6) and Yorkshire (3-7), with the team just finishing below mid table.

The Veterans 1<sup>st</sup> team played in the Premier Division with matches at Ashford in November and Halifax in February. Over both weekends, the team gained wins over Gloucestershire (8-2) and Yorkshire (6-4), drawing with Cheshire and Surrey and losing to Kent (3-7) and Sussex (4-6) to finish mid table.

The Veterans 2<sup>nd</sup> team, organised by Barry Crooke, played their first set of matches in December with a win over Warwickshire (7-3) but losing to Cheshire 3 (4-6), Durham (3-7) and South Yorkshire (2-8). The second weekend saw losses to Bedfordshire (1-9), Yorkshire 4 (2-8) and Yorkshire 5 (4-6), resulting in the team coming next to bottom in the final table.

The Over 60's team, which is self funding and organised by Ron Bennett, played in Division 1A winning 7 and drawing one with Yorkshire. The wins were over Cambridgeshire (8-2), Cheshire (7-3), Cheshire 2 (9-1), Lincolnshire (9-1), Warwickshire (8-2), Worcestershire (10-0) and Yorkshire 2 (8-2). Lancashire finished top of the table and the team have already been presented with their trophies. Congratulation to the team.

There has been a request for County funding for the Over 60's team, which is currently self funding apart from the initial registration. The Committee have agreed to this request, subject to team selection being made through the county selection committee, which would include the Over 60's team captain.

I would also like to thank all team captains and parents for help with transport for the Cadets and Juniors.

Proposed by D Graham, seconded by A Knowleson that the report be accepted.  
Carried unanimously.

#### ELECTIONS:

President: The Chairman proposed, seconded by D Graham, that our current President, Geoff Aspinall, be re-elected. Carried unanimously.

Vice Presidents: The Chairman proposed that all current Vice Presidents be elected by the meeting, which was seconded by A Knowleson. Carried unanimously.

There had been no new nominations for Officers of the Executive Committee, hence the current Committee members, who were all willing to re-stand, were re-elected unopposed. There had been one resignation from last season, Keith Warrington.

The Chairman stated that there were still vacancies on the Committee and if anyone would like to be co-opted, then they should contact a committee member.

#### PROPOSED RULE CHANGES:

There were no proposed rule changes for the meeting to consider.

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

1. The General Secretary informed the meeting that the following day was our President's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and would like to wish him a happy birthday on behalf of the meeting.
2. The Chairman and General Secretary also informed the meeting of two intended rule propositions at the ETTA AGM, which would have an impact on local league players:  
Add to the ETTA Approved Laws of Table Tennis:  
"The racket covering shall be of a brand and type currently authorised by the ITTF."  
&  
"A racket shall not be changed during an individual match unless it is accidentally damaged so badly that it cannot be used."  
The Chairman, as Lancashire National Council, asked the meeting for a view on how he should vote at the ETTA AGM on the racket covering proposition. Following discussion, the meeting voted 7 to 4 in favour of the proposition.  
The Chairman also informed the meeting that he could also act as a proxy vote for any of the Local Leagues, if they were unable to attend the AGM
3. Website – The General Secretary informed the meeting that the current webmaster would not be continuing and he asked the meeting if they knew of anyone who may be prepared to take on the role. He stated that the website did need a complete revamping and also needed to be more pro-active with up to date relevant information. If anyone knew of someone who may be interested, would they ask them to contact the General Secretary.

The Chairman closed the meeting at approx. 8.35pm, thanking all those present for attending.